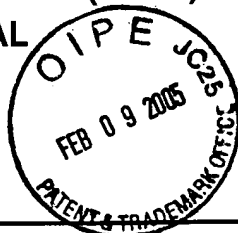


REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number | 09/686,964 |
| Filing Date | October 12, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | Maertens |
| Group Art Unit | 1648 |
| Examiner Name | Hill |
| Attorney Docket Number | 2551-97 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

- a. ☐ Previously submitted (Note: Any previously filed unentered amendments will be entered unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).)
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other Response After Final Rejection
- 02/11/2005 HBEYENE1 00000023 09686964
- 01 FC:1801 790.00 OP
02 FC:1252 450.00 OP
03 FC:1464 130.00 OP

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☒ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 35 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of three months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status.
- b. ☒ Fees are attached as calculated below:
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) \$790.00 (1801)/\$395.00 (2801) \$ 790.00
- ii. ☒ Petition is made to extend the due date two months (less _____ months previously paid) \$ 450.00
- iii. ☒ Other Petition for suspension of action fee \$ 130.00
- c. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed.
- d. ☒ Payment by credit card (credit card payment form attached) in the amount of \$ 1370.00
- e. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee(s) filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm), to Deposit Account No. 14-1140

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Name (Print Type) | B. J. Sadoff | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 36,663 |
| Signature | | Date | February 9, 2005 |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Name (Print Type) | |
| Signature | Date |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,